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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/769,778	01/26/2001	Theis Olsen	P64428US1	3991

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EXAMINER

FIELDS, COURTNEY D

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2137

7

DATE MAILED: 07/08/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/769,778

Applicant(s)

OLSEN ET AL.

Examiner

Courtney D. Fields

Art Unit

2137

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-28 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19, 24, 27-28 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 20-23, 25 and 26 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- 1) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - 2) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - 3) ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 3, 4.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-19,24,27-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Boswell (U.S. Patent No. 5,559,933) in view of Davis et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,633,932).

Referring to claims 1 and 28, Boswell discloses a printing control system and method for ensuring one or more users of a network (such as a LAN: local area network, or a WAN: wide area network) secure access to a print job designated to one or more users of the network, and the printing control system comprising: a client station of a first plurality of client stations for designating the print job to the one or more users, the print job defining a document containing user readable information and defining a header containing document access information in Column 9, lines 17-49, a spool connected to the client station for spooling of the document and substituting the document in the print job with a spooled document in Column 13, lines 10-19, a job database connected to the spool for receiving the spooled document and the header from the client station, the job database defining a document table and a user table and storing the spooled document in the document table and storing the header in the user table in Column 12, lines 44-67, Column 13, lines 1-19, a printer communication unit of

a second plurality of printer communication units for receiving user identifying data input by said one or more users to the printer communication unit in Column 9, lines 50-67, Column 10, lines 1-5, a printer connected to the printer communication unit for receiving the spooled document from the job database and having a request input for receiving a print request from the one or more users and communicating the print request to the server in Column 6, lines 46-63, and a print engine interconnecting the job database and the printer communication unit for compiling of the spooled document to be communicated to the printer through the printer communication unit, the print engine receiving the spooled document from the document table in the job database in Column 7, lines 23-50. However, Boswell does not explicitly disclose the claimed limitation of validating one or more users on the basis of identifying data input to the printer. As per claim 1, Davis et al. discloses the claimed limitation wherein a server managed by a network administrator and interconnecting the printer communication unit to the job database for establishing the one or more users in the user table enabling the one or more users access to the network, for validating the one or more users on the basis of the user identifying data input to the printer communication unit against user information stored in the user table, and for ensuring the user identifying data and the user information provide the one or more users access to the spooled document in Column , Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Boswell's print controller system and method by combining Davis et al.'s user authentication for printing nodes. Davis et al. provides the user a system and method for preventing copy of a document from being output

(printed, displayed, etc.) by a printing node until the printing node locally authenticates the intended recipient. (See Davis et al., Column 2, lines 26-40)

As per claims 2 and 18, Boswell discloses the claimed limitation wherein the network is established by bus connections, parallel connection, a serial connection, a local area network (LAN) connection, by cable connections such as current carrying cables and/or optical cables, by wireless links such as mobile radio transmission links, infra-red transmission links or ultra-sonic transmission links, or by any combination thereof in Column 6, lines 46-49 and Figure 1.

As per claim 3, Boswell discloses the claimed limitation wherein the document is constituted by a file configured in any binary format such as text format, comma or space separated variable format or any user or software defined format in Column 7, lines 45-48, Column 8, lines 31-36.

As per claims 4 and 27, Boswell discloses the claimed limitation wherein each of the first plurality of client stations comprise a local memory, a display, a keyboard and preferably a local central processing unit such as constituted by personal computers, computer workstations and/or such as constituted by mobile communication clients like mobile phones or mobile communicators or any combinations thereof in Column 2, lines 44-51, Column 7, lines 54-57.

As per claim 5, Boswell discloses the claimed limitation wherein the spool spools the document according to a data stream format such as to PostScript, PDF, IPDS, PCL, PCLXL, or AFP format in Column 3, lines 23-35, Column 9, lines 23-30.

As per claim 6, (Boswell as modified by Davis et al.) discloses the claimed limitation wherein the printing control system establishing a secure network by utilizing secure networking procedures providing symmetrical and/or asymmetrical encryption in accordance with public and/or private encryption keys in Column 3, lines 40-56.

As per claim 7, Boswell discloses the claimed limitation wherein the spool incorporates a port monitor for parsing the spooled document in order to determine data stream format such as PostScript, PDF, IPDS, PCL, PCLXL, or AFP format and further to determine print formats such as simplex, duplex, colour, page size, page rotation, tray, stapling, and number of pages of the spooled document will constitute during printing of the spooled document in Column 3, lines 23-35, Column 9, lines 23-30, Column 13, lines 33-49.

As per claim 8, Boswell discloses the claimed limitation wherein the job database is established on a memory storage unit accessible by the server such as magnetic storable hard disk, magnetic storable tape and/or magneto-optic storage disks on the server and having the user table and the document table allocated in storage spaces on the memory storage unit in Column 6, lines 51-53, Column 14, lines 57-59, Column 20, lines 34-36.

As per claims 9 and 10, Boswell discloses the claimed limitation wherein the user table allocates a record space in the memory storage unit for the header, and the document table allocates a storage space in the memory storage unit for the spooled document in Column 15, lines 28-67, Column 16, lines 1-30.

As per claim 11, Boswell discloses the claimed limitation wherein the header contains information such as information regarding data stream format such as PostScript, PDF, IPDS, PCL, PCLXL, or AFP format, print formats such as simplex, duplex, colour, page size, page rotation, tray, stapling, number of pages of the spooled document, access for the one or more users to the spooled document, a digital client signature, duration in which one or more users is allowed access to the spooled document, and number of pages defined by the spooled document or any combination thereof in Column 3, lines 23-35, Column 9, lines 23-30, Column 13, lines 33-49. However, Boswell does not explicitly disclose the feature of a digital client signature. As per claim 11, Davis et al. discloses the limitation of a digital certificate in Column 3, lines 57-67, Column 4, lines 1-22. It would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply a digital signature within the header which allows printing nodes to support various functions. (See Davis et al., Column 4, lines 39-56)

As per claim 12, Boswell discloses the claimed limitation wherein the server incorporates the spool, the job database and the print engine in a server memory in Column 7, lines 23-67, Column 8, lines 1-5.

As per claim 13, Boswell discloses the claimed limitation wherein the printer communication unit comprises a front-end module for identifying the one or more users of the network and a control unit for providing an interface for the print engine and the server to the printer in Column 8, lines 56-67, Column 9, lines 1-13.

As per claim 14, Boswell discloses the claimed limitation wherein the front-end module comprises a display for showing the one or more users accessible print jobs and

operations menus, and comprises a keypad for providing an interface between said one or more users and the front end in Column 15, lines 15-53, Column 26, lines 66-67, Column 27, lines 1-18.

As per claim 15, Boswell discloses the claimed limitation wherein the display utilizing cathode-ray tube screen techniques or the display utilizing liquid crystal display techniques in Column 18, lines 46-53, Column 27, lines 16-18.

As per claim 16, (Boswell as modified by Davis et al.) discloses the claimed limitation wherein the keypad is constituted by a general personal computer keyboard, a numerical keypad or a functional keypad in Column 5, lines 35-41.

As per claim 17, (Boswell as modified by Davis et al.) discloses the claimed limitation wherein the keypad is constituted by a touch sensitive film mounted on the display so as to allow the one or more users to perform user operations by pressing the touch sensitive film in accordance with information showed on the display in Column 5, lines 42-50.

As per claim 19, (Boswell as modified by Davis et al.) discloses the claimed limitation wherein the front-end module comprises a iris scanner and/or fingerprint reader for identifying the one or more users at the front-end module and/or preferably a card reader for reading card information from a card such as a credit card, a library card, a health insurance card, a driving license card, a passport card, a membership card, a company identity card or an institutional identity card, the card information including information such as card user name, card user ID, card user credit, card user's access rights, card user's server address, card user identifying number, card issuing date, card

identity number, digital signature of one or more of the client station of the first plurality of client stations or any combination thereof in Column 3, lines 15-22, Column 5, lines 66-67, and Column 6, lines 1-8.

As per claim 24, (Boswell as modified by Davis et al.) discloses the claimed limitation wherein the server receives a print job selection from the one or more users at the front-end module and the server providing the one or more users access to the spooled document in the document table in the job database upon validation of the user identifying data in Column 4, lines 57-67, Column 5, line 1 and lines 33-65.

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 20-23,25-26 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Courtney D. Fields whose telephone number is 703-305-8293. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Thu 7:00 - 5:00 pm; off every Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gregory Morse can be reached on 703-308-4789. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 2137

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

cd

cdf

June 23, 2004

Matthew B. Smithers
MATTHEW SMITHERS
PRIMARY EXAMINER
Art Unit 2137